

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application Serial No. .... 09/814,337  
Filing Date ..... 03/21/2001  
Inventorship ..... Bolosky, et al.  
Assignee ..... Microsoft Corporation  
Group Art Unit.....2135  
Examiner ..... Gyorfi  
Attorney's Docket No. .... MS-164175.01  
Title: On-Disk File Format for Serverless Distributed File System with Signed  
Manifest of File Modifications

**EXAMINER INTERVIEW SUMMARY FOR EXAMINER INTERVIEW OF  
OCTOBER 24, 2008**

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

From: Christopher J. Culberson (Tel. 509.755.7266)  
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**INTERVIEW SUMMARY**

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Gyorfi for contacting Applicant's attorney, Chris Culberson, to discuss this application on October 24, 2008. During this interview, Examiner Gyorfi stated that claims 9-11 and 13-16 are in condition for allowance. In the interest of expediting prosecution of this application, and without conceding the propriety of any of the previous claim rejections, Applicant has cancelled claims 19-22. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the claims listed below are condition for allowance.

### LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 19-22 are cancelled.

Claims 9-11 and 13-16 remain in the application and are in condition for allowance.

1-8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) In a distributed file system that stores encrypted files across multiple computers, a method comprising:

modifying one or more of the encrypted files;

computing a hash value of each modified encrypted file, one or more of the modified encrypted files comprising file data and a metadata stream that comprises a header and an indexing structure, the indexing structure comprising one or more hashes of the file and a structure to access the one or more hashes of the file;

collecting the hash values into a group;

computing a hash value of the group; and

digitally signing the hash value of the group of hash values.

10. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the computing a hash value of each modified encrypted file further comprises deriving a hash of the header and at least part of the structure.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as recited in claim 9, wherein the metadata stream further comprises per user information and the indexing structure comprises an indexing tree, the indexing tree including the one or more hashes of the file, branch nodes to access the one or more hashes, and a root node, the computing a hash value of each modified encrypted file further comprising hashing as a single composite the header, the per user information, and the root node.

12. (Cancelled).

13. (Previously Presented) One or more computer readable storage media comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, perform the method as recited in claim 9.

14. (Previously Presented) One or more computer-readable storage media comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing device to:

- modify individual files stored in a serverless distributed file system;
- divide one or more of the files into a plurality of data blocks;
- compute a hash value of each of the data blocks, one or more of the modified files comprising file data that includes the data blocks and a metadata stream that comprises a header and an indexing structure, the indexing structure comprising one or more hashes of the data blocks and a structure to access the one or more hashes of the data blocks;
- collect the hash values into a group; and
- digitally signing the group of hash values.

15. (Previously Presented) One or more computer-readable storage media as recited in claim 14, wherein the storage media further comprises computer-executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing device to derive a hash of the header and at least part of the structure.

16. (Previously Presented) One or more computer-readable storage media as recited in claim 14, wherein the metadata stream further comprises per user information and the indexing structure comprises an indexing tree, the indexing tree comprising the one or more hashes of the data blocks, branch nodes to access the one or more hashes, and a root node, the storage media further comprising computer-executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing device to hash as a single composite the header, the per user information, and the root node.

17-22. (Cancelled)

**Conclusion**

Claims 9-11 and 13-16 are in condition for allowance. If any issue remains unresolved that would prevent allowance of this case, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to resolve the issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

Date: October 24, 2008

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